

15 May 2020



**West Kirby**  
Grammar School

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

So we find ourselves at the end of the eighth week of school closure. It seems like a very long time since our community was all together, and it is true to say that it feels like a lifetime ago. I hope that everyone is well and managing in these challenging circumstances.

We know that parents/carers will be anxious to know what is happening about plans for reopening before the end of term. The focus nationally is currently on primary schools, but Year 10 and Year 12 are referred to in Government documentation with the suggestion that they should have 'at least some face to face contact,' before the summer. However, we are waiting for further guidance about what that might mean. For now, we are continuing with our current provision for vulnerable students and the children of key workers. As soon as we have further information, this will be shared with you.

Following our introduction of a wellbeing day this week, we have received some positive feedback and we hope that students feel more able to balance their workload. Next week, the wellbeing day will be on Tuesday, so teachers will not set work for timetabled lessons on this day. For those students of key workers who are attending school, they should once again come prepared with activities for the day. They will have computer access and can bring headphones, but the use of mobile phones will be discouraged.

Some families have asked for additional activities to complete on the wellbeing day, and we understand that maintaining a routine works well for some. If students are looking for additional school work on this day, we would direct them to two websites which contain multiple resources linked to the curriculum.

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Oak National Academy, an online classroom and resource hub: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

We would however encourage students to take a break from the computer on this day if they can, and to do something different. Once again, please remember that if students are struggling they can email [wellbeing@wkgs.net](mailto:wellbeing@wkgs.net) for advice. This email can also be used by parents/carers to contact us.

Our weekly online safety information this week is all about 'family time online' and links to our continued theme of wellbeing. Once again, thanks to Mr Douthwaite for sharing this information with us, it can be found on the school website under letters and presentations.

Half term is already almost upon us, with just one more week of 'school' until then. We have asked key worker parents to let us know what provision they require over the half term break. As it stands, the school will only be open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for these students and we will be closed on Thursday and Friday as no places have been requested. On Monday, I will be arranging the staffing for these days, so any last minute changes must be communicated to school by 12pm on Monday, after this no further changes will be able to be accommodated.

I hope everyone has a good weekend, and we hope to see everyone soon.

Kind regards,

Elaine Sargent  
Headteacher